

Cluster #6

Reinvestment Recommendations

Introduction

On November 17,1997, Cluster 6 Board members and stakeholders reviewed and prioritized recommendations for reinvestment and revitalization of the Cluster. The listing below identifies all recommendations by issue area with the top three recommendations in bold type. These recommendations will be included in the City-Wide Community Reinvestment Report. Maps at the end of the section identify potential sites designated by the Cluster 6 Board for neighborhood commercial, housing sites, and proposed land use.

Neighborhood Commercial Facilities

- 1. Revitalize Grand River as a commercial strip and as an extension of downtown with offices and buildings.
- 2. Promote community as untapped market for providing a diverse range of products and services to consumers.
- 3. Promote the Cluster based on its stable neighborhoods and as a market for housing development which would potentially attract commercial development.
- 4. Enforce existing codes and ordinances for neighborhood commercial facilities.
- 5. Encourage existing business associations to work together to market the Cluster for potential investors.
- 6. Establish multi-purpose recreational and entertainment centers (movie theaters, bowling, ice skating, laser tag) in the Cluster.
- 7. Encourage more financial institutions to locate in the Cluster and enforce the community reinvestment act.
- 8. Develop strip malls with essential services (bakeries, dry cleaners, shoe repair, bank, grocery store, veterinary services) on Rosa Parks Blvd. from W. Grand Blvd. to Clairmount and on Grand River.
- 9. Develop southeast corner of Cluster as an industrial park for warehousing and light industry.



Housing

- 1. Restore tornado damaged area.
- 2. Adopt a policy of preservation first, demolition last to maintain the Cluster's housing stock.
- 3. Expand the MAI (Mother and Infants) house model of Lula Belle Stewart Center to include housing for the homeless, unwed mothers and low income families.
- 4. Utilize in-fill housing architecturally compatible to existing housing on vacant lots.
- 5. Adopt and preserve vacant lots as green spaces maintained by block clubs and neighborhood groups.
- 6. Develop architecturally compatible housing to support the viability of area.
- 7. Transfer responsibility for closing alleys to the city of Detroit.

Job Centers/Transportation

- 1. Improve road conditions and traffic flow for Grand River and West Grand Blvd.
- 2. Create strategic development parcels along new service roads and improve access to Cluster 6 in the redesign of the I-94 Fwy..
- 3. Create connecting routes between DDOT and SMART within the Cluster.
- 4. Market existing Renaissance Zone to attract new industries/companies to create additional full-time jobs with good wages and benefits.
- 5. Establish partnerships to create jobs, build job skills and offer job training for all residents, including physically challenged populations.

Environment

- 1. Increase community awareness to monitor and report toxic sites, contamination and all other health hazards in the neighborhoods; also, fine and close businesses that pose sanitation hazards to the community.
- 2. Establish neighborhood coalition to educate and to take more aggressive action to eliminate lead and asbestos in older housing stock.
- 3. Enforce ordinances regarding illegal dumping.



Youth Development

- 1. Establish community-based learning centers supported by the faith-based community that focus on preparing youth for entrepreneurship, small business opportunities, and computer training.
- 2. Increase availability of parenting classes and support groups for parents challenged by economic instability and youth with juvenile offenses.
- 3. Strengthen the capacity of schools to appropriately identify and support youth with special needs through community-based organization parnerships that link services with local school community organizations to increase awareness and sensitivity to their needs.
- 4. Strengthen community ownership of parks and ability to advocate for improved city services to help maximize park assests and ensure regular maintenance and upkeep of parks.
- 5. Increase availability of and access to alcohol and substance abuse treatment programs for youth and their families.
- 6. Create more drug free zones through recreation centers, church annexes, community centers, and local stores to promote the elimination of alcohol, tobacco and illegal substances by youth.
- 7. Establish community-based clearinghouses to house funding resources and information for neighborhood and community-based groups seeking support for youth programs and activities.
- 8. Create more mentoring programs through neighborhood schools and centers to provide youth positive role models and guidance through mentoring relationships.
- 9 Increase access to and availibility of family-oriented entertainment such as bowling alleys, local theaters and skating rinks.
- 10. Increase the opportunity for employment and recreation for youth to reduce youth violence.